

## State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

## **Hand Washing Week**

WHEREAS, children need to be healthy to stay in school to learn and be successful; and

WHEREAS, germs spread quickly from person to person, especially among children who are in close contact with one another; and

WHEREAS, infectious diseases like the flu and norovirus can keep children out of school for days or even weeks; and

WHEREAS, hand washing is easy to do and it is one of the most effective ways to prevent the spread of many types of infection and illness in all settings – from your home and workplace to childcare facilities and hospitals; and

WHEREAS, clean hands can stop germs from spreading from one person to another and throughout an entire community; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee,** Governor of the State of Rhode Island do hereby proclaim April 15-21, 2012 as Hand Washing Week in Rhode Island and encourage all of its citizens to join me in recognizing the importance of this week.

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Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this 5<sup>-72</sup> day of April, 2012

Lincoln D. Chafee Governor

A. Ralph Mollis Secretary of State